Chapter 295: The Nexus Realm’s Secrets

The Nexus Realm, stabilized under the watchful eye of Sung Jin-Woo’s thirteenth clone, began to reveal its true nature. A labyrinthine plane of infinite dimensions, it was a place where reality and illusion interwove seamlessly. Here, ancient secrets, lost civilizations, and forbidden knowledge lay dormant, waiting for a worthy sovereign to unearth them.

The clone, imbued with the power of $S^{999999999999}$-Rank, moved with purpose. The shadows under its command extended throughout the realm, illuminating its darkest corners. Each step it took reshaped the chaotic energy into something ordered and obedient.

Yet, the realm itself resisted. It was sentient in its own way, testing those who dared to claim dominion over it.

The First Challenge: The Heart of the Labyrinth

At the center of the Nexus Realm lay the Heart of the Labyrinth, a pulsating core of raw, chaotic energy. It was said to hold the power to bend reality itself and grant unparalleled dominion over all dimensions. However, it was protected by an ancient entity known as the Labyrinth Keeper, a being forged from the Nexus Realm’s essence.

The thirteenth clone approached the heart, its presence drawing the attention of the Keeper. A massive figure emerged, its form shifting constantly—one moment humanoid, the next a swirling mass of energy and shadow.

“You dare claim what belongs to the Nexus, intruder?” the Keeper roared, its voice shaking the realm.

The clone stood firm, the aura of its master radiating from its form. “I do not claim. I take.”

The Keeper lunged, its attacks distorting reality around it. Space warped, time fractured, and the laws of existence bent under its might. Yet, the clone was unfazed. With a single motion, it unleashed the Breath of Death, a wave of pure destruction that tore through the Keeper’s form.

But the Keeper reformed, its essence seemingly endless. “You cannot destroy me. I am the Nexus. I am eternal.”

The clone’s eyes glowed dark purple, the second divine jewel on its forehead resonating with power. “Eternity ends when I will it.”

Channeling its creator’s will, the clone unleashed a concentrated beam from its divine jewel. The beam struck the Keeper, not merely destroying its form but unraveling its very essence. The Keeper let out a final, deafening roar before dissipating into nothingness.

With the Keeper defeated, the Heart of the Labyrinth pulsed in submission, its chaotic energy now under Jin-Woo’s control.

The Nexus Throne

As the Heart of the Labyrinth was claimed, the Nexus Realm itself began to shift. At its core, a Nexus Throne emerged—a massive seat of power crafted from the essence of the realm. The throne represented absolute control over the Nexus, granting its wielder unparalleled dominion over dimensions.

The thirteenth clone approached the throne but did not sit. It placed its hand upon the armrest, channeling the throne’s energy directly to Sung Jin-Woo’s original body.

In the Umbra Citadel, Jin-Woo felt the surge of power as the Nexus Throne’s essence merged with his own. The second divine jewel on his forehead glowed brighter, shifting to a deep purple as he assimilated the energy.

“Another piece of the multiverse bends to my will,” he said, his voice reverberating through the Absolute Realm.

The Second Challenge: The Warden of Eternity

With the Heart of the Labyrinth secured, a new challenge arose. The Warden of Eternity, an ancient being tasked with guarding the secrets of time within the Nexus Realm, emerged. Unlike the Labyrinth Keeper, the Warden was not bound to a single form. It existed simultaneously across multiple timelines, its presence paradoxical and overwhelming.

The Warden appeared before the thirteenth clone, its voice echoing across time and space. “You disrupt the balance, shadow. Turn back, or face annihilation.”

The clone stood unyielding, its divine aura clashing with the Warden’s temporal power. “Balance is an illusion for the weak. Submit, or be erased.”

The battle that followed was unlike any other. The Warden manipulated time itself, attempting to trap the clone in infinite loops and erase its existence from every timeline. But the clone, imbued with Jin-Woo’s indomitable will, resisted.

Drawing upon the power of the second divine jewel, the clone unleashed a series of precise energy beams. Each beam struck the Warden across different timelines, unraveling its paradoxical existence piece by piece.

The Warden let out a final, mournful cry as it collapsed into a singularity, its power absorbed by the clone.

The Secrets of the Nexus

With the Warden defeated, the Nexus Realm revealed its true nature. Hidden within its depths were ancient relics and knowledge that predated even the Absolute Realm. Among the discoveries were:

1. The Scrolls of Creation: Ancient texts detailing the origins of the multiverse and the true purpose of the Absolute Crown.

2. The Shard of Eternity: A fragment of pure temporal energy, capable of manipulating time on a universal scale.

3. The Sphere of Nexus: A relic containing the combined knowledge of every civilization that had ever existed within the Nexus Realm.

The clone gathered these relics and sent them to Umbra Citadel, where they were secured within Jin-Woo's treasury.

The Nexus Realm Fully Secured

With the Nexus Realm's challenges overcome, the thirteenth clone established permanent dominion over the plane. Shadow anchors were placed across its dimensions, ensuring that no force could disrupt Jin-Woo's rule.

The clone sent a final report to the original body. "The Nexus Realm is fully under your control, Absolute One. Its secrets are now yours."

Jin-Woo, seated upon his throne, received the report with satisfaction. The second divine jewel on his forehead glowed white for a brief moment, signifying a state of life and harmony.

"Excellent. The Nexus Realm will serve as a foundation for what is to come," he said, his voice calm yet resolute.

With the Nexus Realm secured, Sung Jin-Woo's dominion over the multiverse grew even stronger. Yet, he knew that greater challenges awaited. The secrets uncovered within the Nexus hinted at forces beyond even his comprehension—forces that would soon make themselves known.

"Let them come," Jin-Woo whispered, his gaze fixed on the horizon of the Absolute Realm. "I will take everything."